

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Replacement drawing of Figure 1 is submitted concurrently herewith under a separate cover letter.

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to improve their English grammar. The amendments to the specification and abstract have been incorporated into a substitute specification and abstract. Attached are two versions of the substitute specification and abstract, a marked-up version showing the revisions, as well as a clean version. No new matter has been added.

Proposed drawing amendments are submitted herewith under a separate cover letter. Specifically, Figure 1 has been amended to change the reference number identifying the Communications Unit from “201” to “202” and to change the reference number identifying the Recording Unit from “202” to “201.” These drawing amendments are editorial in nature and do not add new matter to the application.

Claims 1, 4 and 9-18 have been amended to make a number of editorial revisions thereto. These editorial revisions have been made to place the claims in better U.S. form. Further, these editorial revisions have not been made to narrow the scope of protection of the claims, or to address issues related to patentability, and therefore, these amendments should not be construed as limiting the scope of equivalents of the claimed features offered by the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Claims 15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for reciting non-statutory subject matter (i.e., a program). In order to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 101, claims 15 and 18 have been amended to recite “a computer-readable storage medium having a program stored thereon.” As a result, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrickson et al. (U.S. 6,625,622) in view of Sinha (U.S. 2004/0064488). Further, claims 4 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrickson in view of Sinha and further in view of Wright et al. (U.S. 2004/0122873). Claim 12 was rejected under 35

U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrickson in view of Sinha and further in view of Nassar (U.S. 2003/0055671). These rejections are respectfully traversed and are believed clearly inapplicable to amended claims 1, 4 and 9-18 for the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 recites a data transmission/reception system including first and second recording/reproduction apparatuses. Further, claim 1 recites that the first recording apparatus includes an extraction unit operable to extract, from a first database file (which stores copy origin information and copy destination information regarding digital data recorded on the first apparatus), information regarding digital data which corresponds to the digital data recorded in the first apparatus but not recorded in the second apparatus by comparing the first database file stored in the first apparatus with a second database file stored in the second apparatus. In addition, claim 1 recites that the first recording apparatus includes a delete determination unit operable to determine, based upon the copy origin information and the copy destination information included in the first database file, whether or not to delete (i) the extracted information regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data (from the first apparatus) that corresponds to the extracted information.

The above-mentioned rejection of claim 1 relies on Sinha for teaching the features of the delete determination unit and relies on Henrickson for teaching the features of the extraction unit, as recited in claim 1. However, the Henrickson, Sinha, Wright, and Nassar references, or any combination thereof, fail to disclose or suggest the above-mentioned distinguishing features (i.e., the delete determination unit and the extraction unit), as recited in independent claim 1.

Rather, Sinha teaches that a stored delete list identifies log entry files to be deleted (see paragraph [0106]). Specifically, Sinha teaches (1) checking to see whether a specific log entry file exists (see paragraph [0107], lines 8-10), and (2) if the specific log entry file exists, then the file name of the specific file is added to the delete list identifying the log entry files to be deleted (see paragraph [0107], lines 11-13).

Thus, in view of the above, it is clear that Sinha teaches adding a file name of a specific log entry file to a delete list, but fails to disclose or suggest that based upon copy origin

information and copy destination information included in a first database file (stored in a first apparatus) whether or not to delete (i) extracted information regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information, as required by claim 1

Further, as mentioned above, Henrickson was relied upon for teaching the features of the extraction unit recited in claim 1. However, Henrickson merely teaches (1) scanning the hard-drive of a target machine and scanning the hard-drive of a source machine, (2) creating a list of programs stored on the target and source machines, and (3) selecting information to be moved from the source machine to the target machine by reviewing the list of programs stored on the source machine (see col. 4, lines 26-51). In addition, as an example, Henrickson states that “if item ‘A’ exists on source and not on target then set item to ‘copy’” (see col. 5, lines 3 and 4).

Thus, in view of the above, it is clear that Henrickson teaches comparing programs stored on target and source machines to determine whether copying should be executed, but fails to disclose or suggest extracting, from a first database file which stores copy origin information and copy destination information regarding digital data recorded on the first apparatus, information regarding digital data which corresponds to the digital data recorded in the first apparatus but not recorded in the second apparatus, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, because of the above-mentioned distinctions it is believed clear that claim 1 would not have been obvious or result from any combination of Henrickson or Sinha.

Further, the Sinha, Wright and Nassar references were cited for teaching various features of dependent claims 4, 11 and 12 in the above mentioned 35 U.S.C. §103(a). However, the Sinha, Wright, and Nassar references also fail to disclose or suggest the above-discussed features of independent claim 1 which are lacking from Henrickson (i.e., the extraction unit and the delete detection unit), as discussed above. Thus, for the same reasons discussed above, it is clear that the Sinha, Wright, and Nassar references in combination with the Henrickson reference do not disclose or suggest the features of claims 4, 11 and 12 in view of their dependency on independent claim 1. Therefore, no obvious combination of Henrickson, Sinha, Wright or Nassar would result in, or otherwise render obvious the invention of independent claim 1 and claims 4

and 9-12 which depend therefrom.

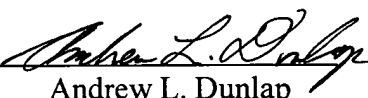
Furthermore, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Henrickson, Sinha, Wright or Nassar or elsewhere in the prior art of record which would have caused a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Henrickson, Sinha, Wright or Nassar to obtain the invention of independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 and claims 4 and 9-12 which depend therefrom are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

Amended independent claims 13-15 recite an apparatus, method, and program, respectively. The apparatus, method, and program of claims 13-15 each recite features that correspond to the above-mentioned distinguishing features of independent claim 1 (e.g., extraction and delete determination). Thus, for the same reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13-15 and claims 16-18 which depend therefrom are allowable over Henrickson, Sinha, Wright and Nassar.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihiro YAMAMOTO et al.

By: 
Andrew L. Dunlap
Registration No. 60,554
Attorney for Applicants

ALD/led
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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